

Going Green is Solid Gold at CSM

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The College of Southern Maryland (CSM) Regional Hughesville Campus, Center for Trades and Energy Training (CTET) has achieved a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold designation from the U.S. Green Building Council. It is the first time that a CSM building has earned the gold environmental design and sustainability award.

CSM received the LEED Gold title for CTET's innovative building design, including its stormwater management techniques such as water-efficient landscaping and various water use reduction methods. The building, dedicated in spring 2017, also received high grades for its optimizing energy performance because of its use of low-emitting materials for adhesives, sealants, paints, coatings, flooring and composite wood products. As a result of the solar panels installed on CTET's roof, CSM produces enough energy to provide lighting throughout the facility. Allowing convenient parking capacity for low-emitting vehicles also earned points for the campus.

"We are thrilled to earn the LEED Gold certification," said CSM President Dr. Maureen Murphy. "It is an achievement that validates our commitment to being good environmental stewards from conception and design to construction and through to the day-to-day operations of the facility."

"Energy conservation was an important goal for the design of the CTET Building," confirmed Vice President of Continuing Education and Workforce Development, Dr. Dan Mosser. "Many conventional energy-saving techniques are incorporated into the building to achieve energy efficiency." Mosser pointed to the use of thermal break aluminum windows with insulating glass to reduce energy consumption; an air-lock vestibule in the main building entrance; an HVAC system divided into multiple zones for efficient year-round and after-hours use and light switches zoned by the layout of each room – all efforts to minimize energy consumption.

LEED is an internationally recognized certification system that uses a point system to evaluate a building's environmental impact. Buildings can earn four levels of certification—certified, silver, gold and platinum—based on their point total. CSM earned its first Silver LEED designation in 2013 for B Building at its Prince Frederick Campus followed by LEED Silver for its Community Education (CE) Building on its La Plata Campus in 2015.

CTET is a 30,000-square-foot building, the first completed on the Regional Hughesville Campus. The facility includes labs, classrooms and administrative space and provides residents throughout the region easier access to specialized training in career fields that have substantial growth potential. CTET houses trades training for the college – HVAC, plumbing, electrical, welding and carpentry – as well as the Maryland Center for Environmental Training (MCET). Marking its 35th anniversary this year, MCET provides environmental, safety and health training and compliance assistance for workers in the region and throughout the state.

The 74-acre Regional Hughesville Campus provides offerings and programs to serve the entire region in a cost-effective and convenient way. Funding for the second phase of the campus, the Center for Health Sciences, was approved by the Maryland State Legislature in its FY18 budget. The college has contracted Grimm and Parker Architects for the design and Scheibel Construction for the construction management services for the facility and construction is expected to begin during summer 2019.

For more information about the Center for Trades and Energy Training, visit <https://www.csmd.edu/about/locations/center-for-trades-and-energy-training/>

For more information about the Regional Hughesville Campus, visit <https://www.csmd.edu/about/locations/regional-campus/>

Learn more about MCET by visiting <http://www.mcet.org/index.html>

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